

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 XMB-02

PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /054 W

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R 281204Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3077

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 1166

BEIRUT FOR RCAA DWOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, BEXP, ESTC, MILI, SY

SUBJ: SYRIAN INTEREST IN LOCKHEED C-130-H AIRCRAFT

REF: A. DAMASCUS 2222 (10/6/74; B. BEIRUT 6359 (6/6/74)

1. AT END OF MEETING WITH SAF MAJOR GENERAL ASAD MOKAYYED (CHAIRMAN OF SYRIAN ARAB AIRLINES (SAA) TO RENEW RCAA CONTACT AND INTRODUCE FAA ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR CLYDE PACE AND HIS ASSOCIATES, MOKAYYED IN SOMEWHAT OFF-HAND MANNER MENTIONED THAT LOCKHEED/GEORGIA INTERNATIONAL MARKETING DIRECTOR J.E. WALDEN (REF A) WOULD BE CALLING ON MOKAYYED WEEK OF MARCH 31 TO DISCUSS AGAIN SYRIAN DESIRE FOR FOUR (4) LOCKHEED C-130-H AIRCRAFT. MOKAYYED SAID LAST WORD FROM LOCKHEED WAS (A) DELIVERY COULD NOT BE UNTIL 1977, (B) LOCKHEED COULD NOT CUT PRICE FOR THIS AIRCRAFT FROM AROUND \$7 MILLION EACH, AND (C) SYRIANS WOULD HAVE TO APPROACH WASHINGTON EXPORT CONTROL AGENCIES TO OBTAIN EXPORT PERMIT.

2. WE NOTED TO MOKAYYED THERE MAY BE CONFUSION OVER LAST POINT AS IT RESPONSIBILITY OF US EXPORTER TO OBTAIN EXPORT LICENSE. MOKAYYED SAID SARG STILL VERY INTERESTED IN

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OBTAINING THESE AIRCRAFT AND HE LOOKED FORWARD TO MEETING

WITH WALDEN NEXT WEEK. MOKAYYED ADDED THAT WHILE SOME (UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS -- WHETHER SYRIANS OR LOCKHEED WAS UNCLEAR) HAD PUSHED FOR RAISING THIS SUBJECT WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER, HIGH-LEVEL SARG OFFICIALS HAD NOT THOUGHT IT APPROPRIATE TOPIC TO RAISE IN VIEW OF MORE IMPORTANT PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

3. COMMENT: AS REFTELS INDICATE, THESE AIRCRAFT HAVE BEEN SUBJECT OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN SARG AND LOCKHEED OVER LENGTHY PERIOD OF TIME. WE DID NOT MAKE ANY OTHER COMMENT TO MOKAYYED OTHER THAN THAT IN PARA 2 ABOVE, PER 10 FAM 182. SARG DECISION NOT TO RAISE WITH SECRETARY IS CONTRARY TO INFO PROVIDED US IN OCTOBER BY LOCKHEED REP LOMBARD (REF A), UNLESS MOKAYYED WAS REFERRING TO MORE RECENT VISITS OF SECRETARY.

MURPHY

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Message Attributes

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